

**WHAT IS CLAIMED AS NEW AND DESIRED TO BE SECURED BY LETTERS PATENT  
OF THE UNITED STATES IS:**

1. A photoreceptor comprising:  
an electroconductive substrate;

5 a photosensitive layer located overlying the substrate;

and

a protective layer located overlying the photosensitive  
layer,

wherein the photoreceptor has a property such that when  
10 the photoreceptor is charged so as to have a potential of - 700  
V and then exposed to light with exposure of  $0.4 \mu\text{J}/\text{cm}^2$ , the  
potential (PL) of a lighted portion of the photoreceptor  
decreases at a rate not greater than 700 V/sec during a time  
period of from a time 35 msec after the exposure to a transition  
15 time of the photoreceptor.

2. The photoreceptor according to Claim 1, wherein the  
protective layer comprises a charge transport material.

20 3. The photoreceptor according to Claim 2, wherein the  
charge transport material is a charge transport polymer.

4. The photoreceptor according to Claim 3, wherein the  
charge transport polymer has a triaryl amine structure.

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5. The photoreceptor according to Claim 1, wherein the  
photosensitive layer comprises a charge generation layer and

a charge transport layer, which are overlaid.

6. The photoreceptor according to Claim 5, wherein the charge transport layer has a charge mobility ( $\mu$ ) not less than  
5  $1.2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}^2/\text{V} \cdot \text{sec}$  at an electric field strength of  $4 \times 10^5$  V/cm, and wherein dependence ( $\beta$ ) of the charge mobility on the electric field strength (E) is not greater than  $1.6 \times 10^{-3}$ , wherein  $\beta = \log \mu / E^{1/2}$ .

10 7. A method for manufacturing the photoreceptor according to Claim 1, comprising:

spray-coating a protective layer coating liquid including a solvent, which dissolves a resin included in the photosensitive layer, on the photosensitive layer, wherein the  
15 following relationship is satisfied:

$$1.3 < W1/W2 < 1.9$$

wherein W1 represents a weight of the coated protective layer, which is measured after coating the protective layer coating liquid and allowing the coated liquid to settle for 1 hour under  
20 conditions of  $25 \pm 3^\circ\text{C}$  and  $53 \pm 5\% \text{RH}$ ; and W2 represents a weight of the coated protective layer, which is measured after coating the protective layer coating liquid and drying the coated liquid for 10 minutes or more at a temperature not lower than a boiling point of the solvent.

25 8. An image forming apparatus comprising:  
the photoreceptor according to Claim 1;

a charger configured to charge the photoreceptor;  
a light irradiator configured to irradiate the  
photoreceptor with imagewise light to form an electrostatic  
latent image on the photoreceptor;

5 an image developer configured to develop the  
electrostatic latent image with a toner to form a toner image  
on the photoreceptor; and

a transfer device configured to transfer the toner image  
to a receiving material optionally via an intermediate transfer  
10 medium,

wherein an interval between the light irradiation step  
and the development step is not greater than 100 ms.

9. The image forming apparatus according to Claim 8,  
15 wherein the transition time of the photoreceptor is not greater  
than the interval between the light irradiation step and the  
development step.

10. A process cartridge comprising:  
20 the photoreceptor according to Claim 1; and  
at least one of a charger configured to charge the  
photoreceptor;

a light irradiator configured to irradiate the  
photoreceptor with imagewise light to form an electrostatic  
25 latent image on the photoreceptor;

an image developer configured to develop the  
electrostatic latent image with a toner to form a toner image

on the photoreceptor;

a transfer device configured to transfer the toner image to a receiving material optionally via an intermediate transfer medium;

5 a cleaner configured to clean a surface of the photoreceptor; and

a discharger configured to reduce charges remaining on the photoreceptor.